



E-News

November 2006

Volume 1, Number 7

In This Issue

- NHSN Training – Save the Dates!
- NHSN Version 1.1 Coming Soon
- Clean up Time! Delete Inactive Users
- Help Messages in NHSN

NHSN Links

NHSN Website

*NHSN Patient Safety Component
Protocols*

DHQP Website

Contact Us

NHSN@cdc.gov

Save the Dates!

A new series of web conference NHSN training sessions are planned for November and December. As we did previously, each session will be approximately 2 hours in length and will be recorded for later viewing from the NHSN website. Each session will present two or more topics. Although the web conference itself will not be presented in separate segments, the slide sets for each topic will be individually available from the website after the training.

Who should attend the training sessions?

If you have previously completed NHSN training, you are not required to attend, but all NHSN facility users are invited to participate – this is also a great opportunity to offer training to those “sister” facilities that you would like to participate in NHSN. Below is a list of the dates and topics that will be presented.

Tuesday, November 14, 2:00 - 4:00 pm EST

Overview – 30 min
Device-associated module
CLABSI – 40 min
VAP – 35 min
CAUTU – 15 min

Thursday, November 16, 2:00 – 4:00 pm EST

Procedure-associated module
SSI – 45 min
PPP – 15 min
Medication-associated module – 1 hour

Tuesday, December 5, 2:00 – 4:00 pm EST

Dialysis Incidents (Outpatient dialysis facilities)
Location set up and data entry – 45 min
Analysis – 30 min

Thursday, December 7, 2:00 – 4:00 pm EST

Enrollment in NHSN – 45 min
Facility Start up – 1 hour

Tuesday, December 12, 2:00 – 4:00 pm EST

Data entry, linking, selected features – 1 hour
Import operation data, download facility data, surveys and customization – 1 hour

Thursday, December 14, 2:00 – 4:00 pm EST

Analysis overview – 45 minutes
Analysis – DA Module – 1 hour 15 min

Tuesday, December 19, 2:00 – 4:00 pm EST

Analysis – PA Module – 45 min
Analysis – MA module – 30 min
Analysis – Advanced features – 45 min

NHSN facilities will be notified prior to each web conference with a website, phone number, and appropriate passcodes for participation. We hope you'll join us!

NHSN Version 1.1 Coming Soon!

The next version of NHSN (1.1) will be deployed some time next week. In this new version, defects have been corrected and the following enhancements have been made to analysis capabilities:

- Patient age and risk fields have been added to all Procedure-associated events line lists
- Device fields (e.g., centralLine, umbCatheter, etc.) have been added to the antibiogram
- Patient Name fields have been standardized in all analysis datasets. The variables for patient name fields are now as follows: patGName (first name), patMName (middle name), and patSurname (last name).
- NHSN aggregate mean is now available as a reference line on all control charts. To utilize this feature, select "modify" next to any control chart on the output option treeview. Check "Display Overlay Line" and "NHSN Aggregated Pooled mean". Click "run". Do not attempt to modify the "Group By" dropdown. This will be enabled in a later version. Also do not select anything other than a rate variable in the "Chart Variable" dropdown.
- The default stratification variable for bar chart and pie chart using the post-procedure Pneumonia (PPP) analysis dataset has been changed to "Procedure Code".
- A new Advanced output option has been added to the event-level section. This output option allows you to calculate rates using any numeric variable in the "All Events" dataset.

Version 1.1 also has an updated **Navigation Bar** that is easier to read and is more intuitive for the user. In the new

version, only the main headings appear on the navigation bar. When one of these main headings is selected, that section expands to list “Add, Find, etc.” It should be much easier to clearly see what is available and what your choices are.



Clean up Time!

We’ve discovered that there are quite a few users that have been added to NHSN facility rosters that are not actually participating in NHSN – many have never downloaded a digital certificate. Because they have been added, we still have them on our email list, but many of these emails are bouncing back to us. The only way to help us clean this up is for your NHSN Facility Administrator to inactivate these users.

Here’s how...

- From the Navigation Bar, select “find” Users.
- Find the name of the individual who should be deleted. Don’t click on their name, but check the box to the left under the column marked “Delete”, and then click the “Delete” button.
- The next time you try to find users, this user will be marked “inactive” (you can’t actually delete a user, but this process will make him/her inactive). This action will also remove him/her from our email list.

Help Messages in NHSN

When NHSN 1.1 is deployed, the Help system will be up and running! To access the NHSN Help System, simply look towards the top right corner of any NHSN screen and click where it says “Help”. A new window will open up displaying the NHSN Help Welcome screen, as well as a Table of Contents.

Through this help system, you will be able to browse through the Table of Contents, browse the Index, or use the Search tool to search through all topics included in the NHSN Help System. To print a specific topic, use the print options available in your browser.

At this time, the new NHSN Help System includes data entry instructions for all Patient safety component forms (for former NNIS hospitals, this is comparable to the Worksheet Instructions). We have also started a “How to” section that demonstrates how to complete certain tasks within the NHSN. Other points of reference include all CDC HAI site Definitions and a glossary. We will be adding more content and functionality to the NHSN Help System in the upcoming months.

